

INFORMATION REPORT
CONFIDENTIAL

COUNTRY China

SUBJECT Chinese Communist Airfields, Hunan

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1. The Hainho (新河) Airfield is about 5 miles south of Changsha. It is in fairly good condition, since it was not destroyed when CH'EN Ming-jen defected. CH'EN was ordered away from the field, and his troops were replaced by those of HUANG K'o-ch'eng (黄克诚), who is now responsible for its protection. The airfield is in a restricted area and no unauthorized persons are allowed to approach it. The staff is composed of about 60 men, none of whom are Russians. However, this airfield was inspected by a group of Russians in March 1950. It is occasionally used by transport planes, but no jet planes have been seen.
2. The Shashessu (沙市) Airfield is about six miles southeast of Hsiangt'an (112-51, 27-54). It is very well constructed, having been completed in 1945. It has not been used since VJ Day, however, and the runways and buildings are in a state of disrepair. The Communists have done no work on this field to date.
3. The airfield at Hengyang is east of the city on the Hsiang River (湘江). It was destroyed during PAI Chung-hsi's retreat, but repairs were completed in February and March 1950. It was then carefully inspected by high Chinese Communist officers and about 10 Soviet technicians. Much aviation gasoline has been shipped there, and about 5,000 drums are in storage. The field is fortified and heavily guarded, and is used occasionally by transport planes. Twelve Russians are staying in the city, but it is not known whether they are connected with air activity.
4. The Tai'achiapu (蔡家坪) Airfield is about three miles northwest of Lingling (111-32, 26-25). It was built during the early days of the Sino-Japanese war, and is connected by a spur with the Hunan-Kwangsi Railroad. The field has not been in use since VJ Day. The Communists seem to be paying no attention to it.
5. The airfield at Pinhsien (彬县) has not been used since 1945 and is in need of repair. The Communists are considering repairing it, but no work has been started yet. There are about 300 labor troops stationed at the field.

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